

REMARKS TO THE PRESS BY THE HONORABLE HENRY A. KISSINGER, SECRETARY OF STATE, FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH SENATORS TO DISCUSS HIS FORTHCOMING AFRICA TRIP, AT THE SENATE, SEPTEMBER 10, 1976

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I want to thank Senator Mansfield, Senator Scott and Senator Allen for arranging this meeting. It underlines the efforts to bring peace in southern Africa and create a framework for a negotiated solution. It is an non-partisan effort in the interest of the entire American people and I want to express my appreciation to all of the Senators for the very constructive spirit in which the discussions took place.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, if your plan were to work, how much would it cost the American people -- over what period of time?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I can't give any precise figures. I have explained to the Senators what we have in mind as a concept; but it also has to be weighed against what a conflict would cost the American people over a period of time.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, Senator Clark says it's his understanding that the project could cost over a billion dollars and that the US share might come to 400-500 million dollars.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: We put forward no precise figures; nor did we put forward any figures that the US Government might have to get -- there are many interested parties that have to involve the cooperation of many other countries -- the United Kingdom, France, have already indicated their strong support, including the economic aspects. I have also talked to the Federal Republic of Germany and we will talk to others. But I am having a press conference tomorrow --

QUESTION: You had breakfast this morning with some members of the House. Do you feel that you have the support of many Senators participating -- did you get a similar feeling from your meeting with the House this morning?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I had a sense that the members who were present understood what we are trying to do and they will support the general policy. Of course, members of Congress are quite capable of expressing themselves and I wouldn't dare to speak for them.

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